

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-10 EA-09 NEA-10

FEA-01 AGR-10 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-01

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

AID-05 CIEP-02 SS-15 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01

SP-02 OMB-01 STR-04 /152 W
----- 112473

R 031730Z NOV 75

FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6607
INFO AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION OECD PARIS

UNCLAS GENEVA 8285

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD GATT SW

SUBJECT: SWEDEN ANNOUNCES RESTRICTIONS ON FOOTWEAR AT GATT COUNCIL
MEETING

REF: (A) STATE 258005 (B) GENEVA 8123

SUMMARY. SWEDEN ANNOUNCED INTENTION TO APPLY IMPORT
RESTRICTIONS ON FOOTWEAR AT OCT 31 GATT COUNCIL MEETING.
ACTION ROUNDLY CRITICIZED BY OTHERS CPS. END SUMMARY.

1. UNDER OTHER BUSINESS AT OCTOBER 31 GATT COUNCIL MEETING
SWEDEN (AMB LAGERFELT) ANNOUNCED INTENTION TO APPLY IMPORT
RESTRICTIONS ON FOOTWEAR. RESTRICTIONS TO BE ON GLOBAL
IMPORT BASIS WITH QUOTALEVELS BASED ON 1972-74 AVERAGE
IMPORTS. SWEDISH STATED NOTED THAT DOWNTREND IN
DOMESTIC PRODUCTION STARTED IN 1960'S AND NOT PART OF
CURRENT RECESSION. RESTRICTIONS JUSTIFIED ON NATIONAL
SECURITY; I.E., NEED TO MAINTAIN MINIMAL LEVEL OF PRODUCTION
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TO MEET NEED IN CASE OF WAR OR OTHER EMERGENCY.

2. THIRTEEN DELEGATES SPOKE IN OPPOSITION TO SWEDISH ANNOUNCEMENT. FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY OF COMMENTS:
SPAIN-ACTION NOT IN CONFORMITY WITH GATT; SPANISH SHOE EXPORTS TO SWEDEN IN DECLINE.
EC-CONCERNED THAT SWEDEN YIELDING TO TEMPTATIONS PRESENTED BY CURRENT ECONOMIC SITUATION.
ROMANIA AND YUGOSLAVIA-REGRETTED LACK OF SPECIAL PROVISIONS FOR LDCS.
US-US REP DRAWING OF REF A REGRETTED (A) CLOSED PROCEEDINGS WHICH DO NOT ALLOW CPS TO DETERMINE IF SWEDEN IN CONFORMITY WITH GATT OR TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS AND (B) THE ABSENCE OF TIME LIMIT ON RESTRICTIONS. MATERIAL IN PARA 5 OF REF A USED TO CONTRAST SWEDISH PROCEDURES WITH US PROCEDURES UNDER TRADE ACT OF 1974.
CANADA- NOTED THAT IT HANDLED SIMILAR PROBLEM BY SYSTEM OF INCENTIVES RATHER THAN RESTRICTIVE MEASURES.
HUNGARY-NOT IN CONFORMITY WITH ART. 13.
INDIA, UK (ON BEHALF OF HONG KONG), SWITZERLAND, KOREA, BRAZIL-ALL REGRETTED ACTION OR RESERVED THEIR POSITION.

3. AMB LAGERFELT, OBVIOUSLY SMARTING UNDER THE CRITICISM, SAID THAT AS REGARDS THE LEGAL BASIS FOR SWEDEN'S ACTION SWEDEN WAS QUOTE ACTING WITHIN THE SPIRIT OF ARTICLE 21 UNQUOTE BUT WAS PREPARED TO ENTER INTO CONSULTATIONS QUOTE WITHIN THE SPIRIT OF ARTICLE 22 UNQUOTE. DALE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
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Disposition Event:
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